

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 865c.014/7 FOR #266  
FROM Italy (Garrett) DATED April 9, 1930  
TO NAME 1-1127 o.p.o.

### REGARDING:

Administration of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica.  
Royal Decree No.2302 of August 31, 1928 being the  
basic political and administrative ordinance for Tri-  
politania and Cyrenaica. Royal Decree Law No.1201 of  
April 8, 1929 which modifies Article 10 of Organic Law  
for,--.

865c.01

INDEXED

ROME, April 9, 1930.

No. 266.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Embassy's despatch No. 2206 of March 27, 1929, regarding the administrative organization of Italian Libya, I have the honor to transmit herewith copies and translations of -

Royal Decree No. 2302, of August 31, 1928, being the basic political and administrative ordinance for Tripolitania and Cyrenaica;

Royal Decree Law No. 1201, of April 8, 1929, which

modifies

modifies Article 10 of the Organic Law for the administration of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica; and

Law No. 8 of January 11, 1930, converting into law the above-mentioned Royal Decree Law No. 1201.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John W. Garrett.

Enclosures:

As stated.

ROYAL DECREE OF AUGUST 31ST 1928 NO. 2302.

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VICTOR EMANUEL III, etc.

POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE FOR  
TRIPOLITANIA AND CYRENAICA.

CHAPTER I.

Central Government of the Colony.

Article 1. (a) The Government departments on which are dependent the technical services and executive offices and (b) the office for personnel and for general affairs are responsible for the affairs of the government of the Colony.

Permanent officials of the Colonial Civil Service of the 6th grade shall be appointed heads of the Government departments by decree of the Minister of the Colonies in agreement with the Governor.

Where necessary, permanent officials of the Colonial Civil Service of the 7th grade can also be appointed to fulfill temporarily duties of director of a Government department by decree of the Minister of the Colonies. In such cases they will be given acting rank.

A permanent official of the Colonial Civil Service of the 6th or 7th grade shall be appointed head of the office of personnel and general affairs by decree of the Minister of the Colonies, in agreement with the Governor.

Article 2.

Article 2. The Government departments are composed as follows:-

1. The department of civil and political affairs responsible for:-

- (a) Political affairs, local administration and the status of citizens.
- (b) The judicial and prison services.
- (c) Security, police, and the respective regular and irregular armed corps.
- (d) Cults, charities and public and private bodies of this character.
- (e) Public health.
- (f) Public and private education and affairs relating to the preservation of ancient monuments and works of art.
- (g) Public works and the supervision of all building operations.
- (h) Railway construction.

2. The department of financial affairs - responsible for:-

- (a) The drawing up and administration of the budget.
- (b) Direct and indirect taxation; the collection of such taxation and fiscal policy in regard to local bodies.
- (c) Monopolies.
- (d) The classification and administration of state property and immovable property and the general finances of the Colony.
- (e) Customs and the control of imports and exports.
- (f) Police measures in regard to finance.
- (g) The administration of expenditure sanctioned in the budget as far as concerns military expenditure.

3. The department of economic affairs and of colonization - responsible for:-

- (a) The general economic policy of the Colony and bodies and services relating to its development.
- (b) Agriculture, colonization and services relating thereto.
- (c) Zootechnical services, shooting and fishing.
- (d) Industry and commerce.
- (e) Labor and labor conditions generally.
- (f) Fairs, markets, trade-shows and exhibitions.
- (g) Credit facilities. Providence and the control of financial institutes relating thereto.
- (h) Land régime generally, and services relating thereto.
- (i) Communications: railways, post, telegraphs, telephones and transport services by air, sea or motor power.
- (l) Weights and measures.
- (m) Maritime services.

Article 3. The department for personal and general affairs - responsible for the following:-

- (a) The civil personnel and the military personnel attached to the civil services, both permanent and temporary.
- (b) The publication of the ordinances, bulletins and official acts of the Colony.
- (c) The activities of the central consultative bodies.
- (d) Honors and awards.
- (e) Translations.
- (f) The archives and libraries of the Government.
- (g) Historical, geographical and statistical services.
- (h) Contracts.
- (i) Interior economy of the central government.

Article 4.

Article 4. The Government departments and the department for personnel and general affairs are sub-divided into sections. The executive personnel of the Government departments, the department for personnel and of the private Secretariat of the Governor are fixed in accordance with the table annexed to this ordinance. The number of accountants, messengers, typists and interpreters is fixed annually by the Governor.

Article 5. The colonial accountants office works, within its sphere of duty, in conjunction with the delegation of the "corte dei conti" (chief audit office) and of the finance department.

The organization and activities of the delegation of the chief audit office and the colonial accountants' office, as well as the connection between the latter and the finance department will be fixed in the colonial administrative ordinance.

Article 6. Authorization in regard to direct correspondence by the Governor and other colonial authorities with the central Italian or foreign authorities, offices, administrations and public bodies will be granted by the Minister of the Colonies either permanently or temporarily on the proposal of the Governor.

Article 7. The following are the civil officials and military officials invested with governmental powers who benefit from administrative immunity:-

- (a) The Secretary-General.
- (b) Commander of the forces.
- (c) The heads of the Government departments.



- (d) The regional commissioners and commandants of zones.
- (e) The delegates of sub-regions (circondario) and the commandants of sub-zones.
- (f) District agents.
- (g) Mayors (podestà).
- (h) Heads of tribes.

The list of Libyan notables upon whom this immunity is conferred shall be drawn up annually by the Governor under instructions from the Minister of the Colonies.

## CHAPTER II.

### The Government Council.

Article 8. The Government council sits in the capital of the Colony and is summoned by the President.

The Governor nominates the secretary of the council and fixes the number of the officials of the secretariat and appoints them from amongst the officials of the Colony.

Article 9. The questions referred to the Government council for their opinion are communicated to them by the rapporteur who will be appointed by the president. The president, in his letter of summons, will inform each particular member of the items on the agenda, giving the name of the rapporteur for each particular question.

Article 10. Two-thirds of the council, including the president, must be present in order that a meeting should be valid.

Article 11.



Article 11. The decisions of the Council are taken by absolute majority voting. In the case of an equality of votes the president has the casting vote.

In voting, the vote of the rapporteur is taken first and subsequently the votes of the other members, commencing with the youngest of the members who are not officials.

When officials at the head of the services of the Colony have been invited to take part in the meetings in accordance with the last paragraph of Article 40 of the organic law, their opinion must be taken first and must be recorded in the minutes.

Article 12. It is the duty of the secretary to keep minutes of the meetings of the Councils, and such minutes must include a clear exposé of the facts and of the discussions and reasons of the vote.

The minutes shall be signed by the president and secretary.

Article 13. The secretary of the council is responsible for the keeping of:- (1) a list of the questions referred to the council and of their opinion on such questions, and (2) the minute book.

Article 14. An attendance medal will be granted to the non-official members of the council, as fixed annually by the Minister of the Colonies.

In addition, traveling expenses will be granted to non-official members who reside outside the capital of the Colony.

CHAPTER III.

General Advisory Body. (Consulta Generale).

Article 15. In the month of December the Minister of the Colonies, on the proposal of the Governor, fixes the number of the members of the consulta generale representing the various ethnico-religious elements of the population, and appoints them.

The decree of nomination is notified to each individual member through the instrumentality of the Governor. Acceptance must be made within five days of notification.

The appointed members take up their duties on January 1st. Members who are nominated to fill vacancies which occur during the period of two years will cease to be members at the end of that period.

Article 16. Members of the consulta generale must attend meetings unless they have obtained formal leave or have justified their absence.

In the case of unauthorized absence the Minister of the Colonies, on the proposal of the Governor, may cancel his membership.

Article 17. The consulta generale is summoned by the Governor by means of a notification issued at least fifteen days before the meeting, and which must state the hour and place of meeting. Members who cannot attend must inform the Governor in advance.

Article 18. At the first meeting, after the formal assumption by the consulta generale of its functions, the secretary general of the Governor,

assisted

assisted by an official appointed by him to discharge temporarily the functions of secretary, will assume the presidency.

Members of the consulta will swear allegiance at the hands of the secretary general in the following terms:-

"I swear to be faithful to the King and his successors; to observe loyally all the laws of the state and to fulfill the obligations of my office with zeal and diligence for the public weal and in the interests of the government.

"I swear that I do not belong and will not belong to societies or parties whose activities do not reconcile themselves with the duties of my office."

Members of the consulta generale who were not at the first meeting will swear allegiance in the above terms at the first meeting at which they are present.

Article 19. The office of the presidency consists of a president and a vice-president; that of the secretariat, of a secretary and a vice-secretary.

Nominations are by election in open ballot; and are decided by absolute majority of the votes of those members who are present.

If no absolute majority is obtained a new election must be held between the two who have received the highest number of votes at the first ballot.

If the voting is equal the elder candidate is declared elected.

Article 20. After the election the secretary general announces the result and installs in their offices the members of the presidency and secretariat.

Article 21. The members of the presidency and the secretariat will be held to have resigned their posts as the result of a resignation duly accepted or in consequence of their having ceased to be members of the consulta.

Their successors will be appointed as laid down in Article 19 above.

Article 22. The consulta will meet in ordinary session in January or February to consider questions on which their advice must be sought, in accordance with the provisions of Article 50 of the organic law.

The Governor may summon extraordinary meetings at any time.

Article 23. The Governor, in giving notice of an ordinary or extraordinary meeting, will inform each member of the agenda.

In each particular question the Governor will communicate to the presidency in two languages a précis of the points on which the opinion of the consulta generale is required.

Documents relating to the matter in question must be lodged with the secretariat for the use of the members.

Article 24. Meetings of the consulta are valid when an absolute majority of its members are present, exclusive of those who are on leave or who are legitimately absent.

Article 25

Article 25. Representatives of the Government, in the person of the secretary general, the heads of the government departments and the head of the office of personnel and general affairs are present at the meetings of the consulta and may take part in its discussions.

One at least of the above government representatives must be present for a meeting to be valid.

Article 26. The president, having assured himself of a quorum opens the meeting and requests the secretary to read the minutes of the preceding meeting, which must be approved. Members have the right of having their observations recorded in the minutes.

The president then communicates the questions which are to be examined and calls on the competent representative of the Government to initiate the discussion.

The president opens and controls the discussions and no member may speak unless he has obtained the permission of the president to do so.

Article 27. After the discussions are finished the president puts to the vote those questions on which the consulta must give its opinion.

Voting is either by name or by division. Proposals which receive the majority of the votes of those present are held to have been approved. The president has the casting vote.

Article 28. The president corresponds with the Government of the Colony, to whom he communicates the findings of the consulta generale by means of a verbatim

copy of the minutes of the session.

Article 29. The secretary is responsible for drawing up the minutes. He is also responsible for dealing with official correspondence and for dealing with all matters relating to the activities of the consulta. He will keep a record in which the minutes of the meetings are inscribed in chronological order.

The minutes should contain:-

- (a) The names of those present and those absent.
- (b) A resumé of the discussions.
- (c) The findings and the results of the voting.

The minutes are to be signed by the president and the secretary.

At the request of the president the Governor may attach to the office of the secretariat one or more clerks.

Article 30. The issue of an attendance medal to the members of the consulta generale may be made by the Minister of the Colonies on the recommendation of the Governor. Traveling expenses and maintenance are granted to those members who reside outside the capital of the Colony, on a scale to be fixed by the Governor.

Office expenses may also be granted to the president, the vice-President, the secretary and the vice-secretary by the Minister of the Colonies on the recommendation of the Governor.

Article 31. Sessions of the consulta are generally public, but the Governor, for special motives, can order them to be secret.

Article 32.



Article 32. For reasons of public order the consulta generale can be dissolved by the Minister of the Colonies on the proposal of the Governor.

It must, however, be reconstituted within six months.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### Administrative divisions of the territory.

Article 33. The division of the territory into regions or zones, sub-regions (circondari) or sub-zones and districts, in accordance with Article 51 of the organic law, is affected by decree of the Minister of the Colonies on the proposal of the Governor.

Article 34. Regions and sub-regions (circondari) can be temporarily constituted into zones and sub-zones by decree of the Governor, with the permission of the Minister of the Colonies, when for reasons of public order the functions of the Government and military command must be united.

Article 35. One or more districts, if local conditions necessitate it, may be placed under the direct control of the regional commissioner.

In the capitals of the regions the functions of delegate of a sub-region (circondario) or commander of a sub-zone shall be respectively exercised by the regional commissioners or commandants of zones.

In the capitals of the sub-regions the functions of district agent are exercised by the delegate of the sub-region or commandant of the sub-zone.

**Article 36.**



Article 36. The regional commissioners and commandants of zones are nominated by decree of the Governor, which must be communicated to the Minister of the Colonies. The delegates of sub-regions and commandants of sub-zones, as well as district agents, are nominated by decree of the Governor.

The regional commissioners and delegates of sub-regions are selected from amongst officials of the permanent colonial staff whose grade shall be respectively not less than the 8th and 9th; the commandants of zones and sub-zones shall be selected from amongst the officers of the royal colonial troops whose grade shall be respectively not less than that of major and captain.

The functions of delegate of a sub-region may nevertheless be exercised by officials of the permanent colonial staff whose grade is less than the 9th; in such cases the officials so selected have acting rank.

Where special circumstances demand it native officials may also be made delegates of sub-regions.

District agents may be either Italians or natives.

Article 37. The administrative personnel attached to the local offices of Government are as set out in the schedule attached to this decree as approved by the Minister of the Colonies. The interpreters, accountants and messengers are established annually by decree of the Governor.

Article 38

Article 38. The regional commissioners and commandants of zones represent the Governor in their respective regions and there carry out according to instructions received from him, the functions which are granted to them or delegated to them by the Governor in accordance with the laws, ordinances and regulations.

They see to the publication and execution of laws, ordinances and regulations.

They are responsible for the government, public order, security and public health of the region. They have control of the public forces and take the necessary measures for its distribution in the territory; they may call on the armed forces when they are not already under their command, and are authorized to take the necessary emergency measures to this end.

They supervise the imposition and collection of tribute and the payment of taxes, such as taxes on land or of any other nature. They draw up the annual budget as far as their zone is concerned, and control the expenditure within the limits of their competence and of the sums granted to them, and in accordance with the fiscal regulations. They control all public services in the region and supervise the administration in general and have the power to take the necessary emergency measures, such measures being referred to the Governor.

They are consulted in regard to the nomination of the delegates of sub-regions and put forward the names

of

of the district agents in their zones.

They control the activities of district delegates and agents; they are empowered to suspend the latter and appoint others temporarily and they are also empowered to recommend the suspension of the former.

They recommend to the Governor the names of Mayors (podestà) and are empowered to suspend them and appoint others temporarily.

With the authorization of the Governor they may delegate to the heads of departments under them one or more functions which are exercised by them.

Article 39. The delegates of sub-regions or commandants of sub-zones carry out the functions granted to them by the laws and regulations; they supervise the public services, and carry out the orders and instructions of the regional commissioners and commandants of zones, and in cases of urgency where they must act on their own initiative, must refer immediately to them.

Under the instructions of the regional commissioners or commandants of zones they are responsible for the government, public order, security and public health in the sub-regions.

They are consulted in regard to the nomination of district agents and control their activities.

They are in control of the public forces and in cases of urgency where it is not possible in time to request the regional commissioner or commandant of a zone to take the necessary action, they may call direct on the

armed

armed forces in cases where they are not already under their command.

Article 40. The district agent exercises the functions conferred on him by the ordinances in force and which are delegated to him by the head of the sub-region whose orders and instructions he carries out.

He is responsible for the safety of communications, the care of buildings and other public works, and must immediately report to the delegate of the sub-region all damage or any circumstances which prevent the regular working of these services.

For the maintenance of public order he may have armed irregulars at his disposal.

Article 41. The district agent also carries out all functions of a municipal character.

The Governor can appoint a district advisory body of not more than six members to assist the district agent in the exercise of these functions.

The imposition and the collection of local tribute, expenditure and the functions of the municipal police are controlled in the districts in accordance with the regulations drawn up by the municipalities as far as they are applicable.

Article 42. The Governor, where considered necessary, can, in agreement with the Minister of the Colonies, confer on the heads of regions, sub-regions and districts, further powers in addition to those indicated in the preceding articles.

Article 43.

Article 43. The temporary replacement of a regional commissioner or commandant of a zone is done by the Governor.

The temporary replacement of a delegate of a sub-region or commandant of a sub-zone, or a district agent, is carried out by the regional authority, but must be ratified by the Governor when the holder of the office is absent for more than one month.

#### CHAPTER V.

##### Municipalities.

Article 44. Municipalities are constituted by a Decree of the Minister of the Colonies on the proposal of the Governor, which fixes their territorial extent and determines what nomadic or semi-nomadic populations, if any, are to be included therein.

Article 45. The municipal administration is composed of a podestà (Mayor) assisted by a municipal advisory body (Consulta).

The podestà may be assisted by a vice-podestà appointed by the Governor from amongst the municipal counsellors.

Article 46. The podestà is nominated by decree of the Governor. He remains in office for three years and is re-eligible, but may be suspended, removed or deprived of his office either for moral or political delinquencies, for incapacity or for any other grave reason



reason where it shall be proved that his conduct was incompatible with his duties.

The vice-podestà acts for the podestà when the latter is absent or suspended.

The same rules in regard to the nomination, length of office, suspension, revocation and dismissal as apply to the podestà also apply to the vice-podestà.

Article 47. In the capital of a Colony the functions of the podestà can be entrusted to the regional commissioner by decree of the Governor with the assent of the Minister of the Colonies.

Article 48. The Governor determines by decree the number of members of the consulta of each municipality, representing the various ethnic-religious elements of the population and provides for the nomination of the counsellors, who remain in office for three years.

The same rules in regard to the suspension, revocation and dismissal which apply to the podestà and vice-podestà apply equally to the municipal counsellors.

Article 49. The podestà, vice-podestà, and municipal counsellors, before taking up the duties of their office, must swear the oath of allegiance given in Article 18 before the regional commissioner or commandant of a zone.

Article 50. The Governor may authorize a representation allowance to the podestà and vice-podestà and an attendance medal to the counsellors.

Article 51.

Article 51. The podestà is the head of the municipal administration and is in control of the administration. If he is an Italian he is also public registrar (ufficiale dello stato civile).

If he is a native the functions of a public registrar are delegated to an Italian municipal counsellor or other local official.

Article 52. The municipal administration can be dissolved by decree of the Governor for reasons of public order or for any other grave motive and be replaced by a special commissioner. In the case of the capital of the Colony the assent of the Minister of the Colonies is necessary.

The special commissioner cannot function for more than a year.

Article 53. The municipal administration directly appoints its employees and salaried officials in accordance with the rules laid down in the special regulations on this subject.

Article 54. The functions of the municipal consulta are purely advisory in character; their opinion may be sought on all questions which the podestà sees fit to submit before them.

The opinion of the municipal consulta is necessary in regard to the following matters:-

- (a) The sale or lease of immovable property or title deeds.
- (b) the institution of servitudes or other burdens in respect of property.



- (c) Expenditure in excess of 10,000 lire.
- (d) Leases and rentals for periods of more than nine years, or in cases where the value exceeds 20,000 lire.
- (e) Expenditure which is a charge on the budget for more than three years.
- (f) Proposals for new works or proposals for the maintenance and upkeep of existing works, the estimates of which are respectively more than 20,000 and 40,000 lire.
- (g) Proposals for contracts in respect of concessions for public services.
- (h) Budgetary estimates and expenditure.
- (i) Tributes and imposts of every description.
- (l) Municipal regulations of every description.
- (m) Loans.
- (n) Judicial proceedings whether as claimant or defendant, or settlements out of court, in cases where the sum at issue exceeds 10,000 lire.

Cases in which the opinion of the podestà in regard to the aforesaid matters differ from the opinion given by the municipal consulta must be decided by the Governor.

Article 55. All decisions of the podestà must be communicated to the head of the sub-region for confirmation. In cases where the head of the sub-region is of the opinion that such decisions are contrary to the laws and regulations he will return them to the podestà with his reasons for  
refusing

refusing to confirm them.

In such cases appeal may be made to the regional commissioner or commandant of a zone or even to the Governor in cases where the municipality is directly under the regional authority.

The regulations contained in this present article are not applicable to the cases specified in Article 47.

Article 56. All decisions of the podestà in matters requiring the opinion of the consulta, must be approved by the regional commissioner or commandant of the zone.

Appeal may be made to the Governor against decisions of the regional authority.

In regard to the questions set forth in Article 47 the decisions of the podestà are subject to the approval of the secretary general.

Article 57. Budget estimates providing for contributions by the Government must be approved of by the Governor.

In the same way the decisions of the podestà in regard to the institution of tribute or municipal imposts or in regard to the organic ordinances referred to in Article 53 must be approved of by the Governor.

Municipal regulations approved of by the regional commissioner or commandant of a zone and, in cases foreseen in Article 47, by the Secretary-general, must be submitted to the Governor for his placet.

Article 58.

Article 58. All decisions under headings a. e. g. h. and m. of Article 54 must be communicated to the Governor by the regional authority.

Article 59. Appeals against the decisions of a podestà may be made to a regional commissioner or commandant of a zone, and, in cases foreseen in Article 47, to the secretary-general.

Appeals against the decision of the regional authorities or the secretary-general may be made to the Governor, whose decision is final.

Article 60. The Governor can at any time declare any measure or decision of a podestà which is in opposition to the laws and regulations, or is manifestly contrary to municipal interests, as null and void, in consequence of an appeal or information laid against such measures or decisions, or on his own initiative.

## CHAPTER VI.

### Tribes and other smaller groups of the population.

Article 61. The nomadic and semi-nomadic populations are grouped into tribes. They may be divided into sub-tribes in cases where the number and the degree of autonomy of a particular fraction warrant it.

The settled native populations are divided into "quartieri" in the case of urban centres, and into fractions in the case of rural centres.

Article 62. The division of the nomadic or semi-nomadic populations into tribes and eventually into  
sub-tribes

sub-tribes is decided upon by the Governor in consultation with the regional commissioner or zone commandant.

The division into "quartieri" or fractions is proposed by the municipality where such cases are within their competence, and is fixed by the Governor in consultation with the regional authority.

Article 63. The Governor may also cause nomadic tribes to be constituted into groups where special circumstances of a political or social character demand it. Such a group forms a confederation of tribes, at the head of which is appointed, by decree of the Governor, a chief with the title of "caimacam", of a rank corresponding to that of a sub-regional delegate.

Article 64. At the head of a tribe is appointed a chieftain ("seech el musciaich, seech, es-sciuch, seech, omda"); at the head of a sub-tribe a chieftain of the rank of "seech"; they are appointed by decree of the Governor.

Article 65. Chieftains of the title of "muchtar" appointed by the regional authority in accordance with traditional usage, are appointed to urban "quartieri" or rural fractions.

The "muchtar" is assisted by a "imam", appointed in the same way, and whose signature is equally necessary on all documents.

Article 66. An imam, to deal with religious questions and questions of personal status, can also

be

be appointed to assist the head of a nomadic tribe.

This official can also be entrusted with the duties of secretary to the head of a tribe, and the cadi or naib or el-cadi may delegate certain powers to him.

Article 67. The oath as set forth in Article 18 above must be taken by the heads of tribes, sub-tribes, or "quartieri" before they enter upon their duties, in the presence of the regional commissioner or zone commandant.

These officials enjoy a salary fixed by the Governor within a maximum and minimum limit for each category, as laid down by the Minister of the Colonies, on the recommendation of the Governor.

Article 68. The chief of a tribe represents his group vis-à-vis the Governor and is responsible for the actions of his tribe vis-à-vis the local political authorities. He carries out, in accordance with instructions received, the duties conferred upon him by the laws, ordinances and regulations, or which are delegated to him.

He must see that the laws, ordinances and regulations are brought to the notice of his tribesmen.

He is responsible for the safety of the territory in which his tribe dwells or passes through, and is responsible for the communications, and the up-keep of wells and cisterns and works of public utility.

He

He commands and is responsible for the armed irregulars of his tribe in cases where permission has been given for their use by the Governor.

He keeps the local authorities informed of the whereabouts of his tribe and of the reasons for their being there and also of all occurrences which may possibly affect the general safety or public order.

He holds preliminary enquiries into crimes, arrests criminals and hands them over to the representatives of the judicial police.

He cooperates in the imposition and collection of taxes and is responsible for collective fines inflicted on his tribe and for the allocation of the amount to be paid by each individual member.

Article 69. The chief of a tribe, in his position as commander and controller of the armed forces of the tribe, is directly responsible to the political authorities under whose jurisdiction he is for the arms consigned to individual members; he controls the use of all ammunition of which he must give account.

The organisation of the armed forces of the tribe is fixed by decree of the Governor.

Article 70. A public security official, with the title of "mamur el amuia" may be attached by the regional commander to the head of a confederation of tribes or to a district agent to command and employ the armed forces of the tribe or the native irregular police.

Article 71.



Article 71. The duties of the head of a sub-tribe are analogous to those of the head of a tribe in every respect; he carries out his orders and assists him in every way.

Article 72. A council of elders, whose duties are of a consultative nature in regard to the affairs which interest a tribe and especially in regard to matters of tribal lands and of wells and cisterns, may be appointed in accordance with traditional usage to advise the heads of tribes or the heads of tribal confederations. These councils are appointed by the regional commissioner or zone commandant.

Article 73. The chiefs of "quartieri" and chiefs of fractions assist the municipal or district authorities in all matters of municipal interest, and especially in regard to questions relating to the public registrar's office, the urban or rural police, and the custody of graves.

They also assist the local authorities in regard to the imposition and collection of taxes and imposts, either of a governmental or municipal nature.

They also carry out all the other duties which may be entrusted to them by law or regulation, and must carry out the orders of the authorities under whom they are directly placed.

They must inform these authorities of all occurrences affecting the general safety and public health, and must  
assist



assist the police in the discovery of crime and in the arrest of suspects.

They supervise the administration of property and institutions, collectively owned by the tribe; they must see to the custody of cemeteries, and are responsible for all religious matters including the tombs of saints.

They are held responsible that the laws, ordinances, regulations and orders of the authorities are generally known and duly observed.

No.1861.

ROYAL DECREE LAW of April 8th 1929 No. 1201.

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Modification of Article 10 of the Organic Law for  
the administration of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica.

VICTOR EMANUEL III

By the Grace of God and the Will of the Nation.

KING OF ITALY.

With reference to the Law of January 31st 1926  
No. 100, Article 3;

With reference to the Organic Law for the administration  
of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica of January 26th 1927 No. 1013;

And whereas it is desirable and necessary to modify  
the second paragraph of Article 10 of the above Law in  
respect of the application to the Libyan Colonies of the  
ordinances in force in Italy in regard to certain specified  
matters.

The Council of Ministers having been heard;

On the proposal of our Minister Secretary of State  
for the Colonies;

We hereby decree and have decreed:

Article 1. The second paragraph of Article 10  
of the Organic Law for the administration of Tripolitania  
and Cyrenaica shall read as follows:-

"The

"The laws in force in the Kingdom in regard to public works, public health, the customs, the postal and electrical services, fiscal monopolies and military services, as well as the regulations applying thereto, shall be applied equally and under the same limits to Tripolitania and Cyrenaica in all cases which are not covered and which will not in future be covered by special regulations in respect of Libya."

The present decree will be presented to Parliament to be converted into law.

The Minister proposing this decree law is hereby authorized to present the relative draft law.

We hereby ordain that the present decree, bearing the seals of state, shall be inserted in the official collection of laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and order whoever it may concern to obey it and cause it to be obeyed.

Dated at Rome, April 8th 1929 - Year VII.

No.173

LAW OF JANUARY 11th 1930, No. 8.

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Converting into law the Royal Decree Law of  
April 8th 1929, No. 1201 modifying Article 10 of the  
Organic Law for Tripolitania and Cyrenaica.

VICTOR EMANUEL III

By the Grace of God and the Will of the Nation.

KING OF ITALY.

The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies having  
approved;

We sanction and promulgate the following:

Sole Article.

The Royal Decree Law of April 8th 1929, modifying  
Article 10 of the Organic Law for Tripolitania and  
Cyrenaica, is hereby converted into law.

We hereby ordain etc. etc. etc.

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# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

865c.01

9

SEE 865c.014/15 FOR #990

FROM Italy (Long) DATED Mar. 7, 1935  
TO NAME 1-1127 870

### REGARDING:

Organization of Libya. Transmits translation of Royal  
Decree-Law dividing the colony of Libya into four  
"Provincial Commissariats General".

ro

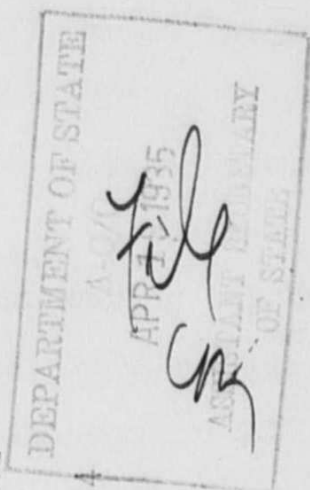
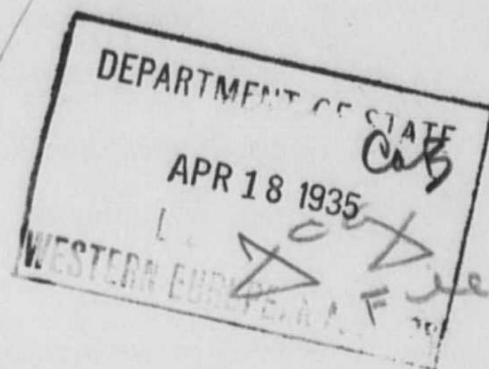
865c.01/9



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ROME , April 4, 1935.

No. 1032.

Subject. Organization of Libya.



Rating	Dispositions
Grade for	MID ONI

APR 22 1935

865C.01/10

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

865C.014/15

With reference to my despatch No. 990 of March 7, 1935, regarding the organization of Libya, I have the honor to report that the Council of Ministers on March 30 approved a decree to combine the Colonial Troops of Tripolitania and Cirenaica, respectively, into one command to be known as the Royal Colonial Troops of Libya, with headquarters at Tripoli. Brigadier General Guglielmo Nasi has been appointed commanding officer.

The

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The Council of Ministers on March 30 also approved a decree to create, with necessary modifications for local conditions, juvenile courts at Tripoli and Bengasi similar to those established in Italy under Decree-Law No. 1404 of July 20, 1934 (see the Embassy's despatch No. 819 of November 26, 1934). *865,041/4*

On the same day it likewise approved a decree empowering the Governor of Libya to suspend penal proceedings and the execution of sentences against Libyan citizens for all offences. This extraordinary authority was conferred on the Governor by Royal Decree No. 787 of May 4, 1934, but expired on December 31, 1934, and is now renewed for one year with a view to repatriating Libyan refugees.

The Italian Government appears to be devoting special efforts to awakening a popular interest in Libya. Fifteen hundred "Dopolavoristi" were recently taken on a cruise to this colony. On April 1 a telephone service between Rome and Tripoli was inaugurated by a telephone conversation between the Duce and the Governor of Libya, and on April 2 an automobile service was opened between Tripoli and Gadames. Such events are given publicity in the Italian press and numerous articles and photographs of Libya are published in the newspapers.

Respectfully yours,

*Breckinridge Long*  
Breckinridge Long.

GG/eh



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 865c.014/20 FOR #1128

FROM Italy ( Phillips ) DATED Oct. 27, 1938  
TO NAME 1-1127 \*\*\*

**REGARDING: Status of Libya.**

Quotes resolution approved October 25 at the meeting of the Fascist Grand Council proclaiming that the four provinces of Libya shall form a part of the national territory.

lec

865C.01/11

Rome, October 27, 1938.

No. 1128

Subject: New Status of Libya.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that at its meeting of October 25, 1938, the Fascist Grand Council approved the following resolution relating to the status of Libya:

"The Grand Council of Fascism

in view of the fact that sixteen years of Fascist activity have completely changed the spiritual, political and economic conditions of Libya, where the coast provinces have, by virtue of the productive efficiency achieved and their increasingly intensive Italian population, now in fact become an integral part of the national territory;

recalling the continuous proof of loyalty afforded by the Moslem populations, culminating in the voluntary participation in the conquest of the Empire;

proclaims that the four provinces of Libya shall form a part of the national territory and decides that the new constitution of the

Libyan

Libyan populations shall be defined in a legislative measure to be examined at an early session of the Grand Council."

Depending upon the final form which the new constitution to amend the present basic statute approved by Royal Decree Law No. 2012 of December 3, 1934 (see Embassy's despatch No. 880 of December 22, 1934, will take the four Libyan provinces will cease to have an autonomous political, military and administrative government and will become an integral part of Italy. While no details are yet available concerning the changes envisaged, it may be presumed that the new provinces will be administered by prefects under the direction of the Ministry of the Interior as in the case of the provinces of Italy proper, which are grouped in eighteen departments. Detailed provisions concerning financial provisions for the colony, which formerly had its own budget to which an annual contribution was made from the budget of the Ministry of Italian Africa, will also have to be elaborated by the new constitution.

In explanation of the change in the status of Libya, it is said that the new statutes will have favorable repercussions throughout the Arab and Islamic world and give evidence of the Italian policy of respect for a collaboration with these peoples. The statutes are also intended to draw the Libyan populations, both native and colonial, into closer association with the metropolitan territory.

At the same meeting the Grand Council approved a vote of solidarity with the Italian colonists who are scheduled to depart for Libya on October 28, 1938 (see Embassy's despatch No. 1122 of October 24, 1938).

Considerable publicity has been given to press  
reports

reports featuring preparations for their departure. They are scheduled to sail from Genoa, Naples and Syracuse arriving in Tripoli on November 3. The 1800 families, according to the MESSAGGERO of October 25, 1938 have been selected from the regions having the densest population and from among families having the largest number of children. In addition to the criteria of selection set forth in the despatch under reference, it is further understood that the colonists coming from districts of low altitude will be settled in the villages of Tripolitania, while those coming from the hills and mountain districts of Italy will preferably be sent to the Jebel region in Cyrenaica.

Respectfully yours,

William Phillips

SR: jp

8654.044.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

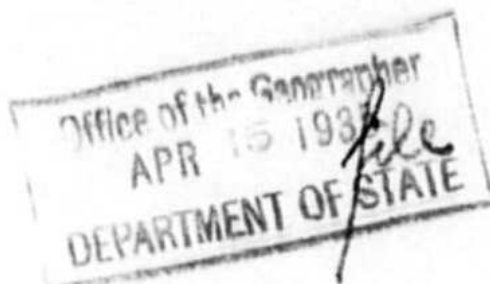
DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
MEMORANDUM

April 11, 1935.

WE - JPM:✓  
ME:

The attached map of Italian Somaliland is a curious production. You will note that a very considerable area in Ogaden has been added to Italian territory. The boundary on this map is, I believe, pushed farther to the northwest than on any other Italian map which we have seen. A careful examination of the map will reveal the superimposed shading of the annexed territory. It will be noted that the editors forgot to make the same annexation on the map of the whole of Africa, although they remembered to indicate the recent additions to Libya.

J.C.G.



G-2 Report

ITALY (Political)

Subject: Foreign Relationships;  
Relationship between Italy and Dependencies.

Present delimitation of boundaries of Italian Colonies  
in Africa, following the recent Franco-Italian Pact.

The enclosed map is thought to indicate, as near as it is possible to determine at this time, the new boundaries of Italian Colonies in Africa.

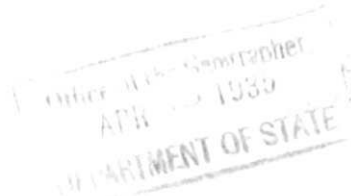
With regard to LYBIA, the delimitation may be considered quite accurate, though the map has not been issued by an Agency of the central government.

With regard to Italian East-Africa Colonies, parts of the boundaries (following strict orders given by the Italian Government to all map-making concerns) have been indicated as undetermined in correspondence of the DANKALIA region (Eritrea) and in SOMALIA. It is interesting to note that apparently quite a large strip of land has been added to Italian sovereignty in SOMALIA (from Dolo, on the Giuba river, up to the British Somaliland). The additional territory which the map seems disposed to add to Somalia is included in the triangle JEF (or GAPP, on some maps) - BOHOTLE (or BOHOTLEH) - MADAM GHINO (or DAREN GHINO), indicated in darker color on the map.

This Map might be added as an enclosure to report ITALY No. 14215-3850, of January 10, 1935.

Encl. 1 map.

J.G. PILLOW,  
Colonel, Cavalry, U.S. Army,  
Military Attache.



Handwritten note: Photostat copy of map of Italy and map of Africa and the Middle East.

from: M/A, Rome, Italy.

Report No. 14319

March 13, 1935.



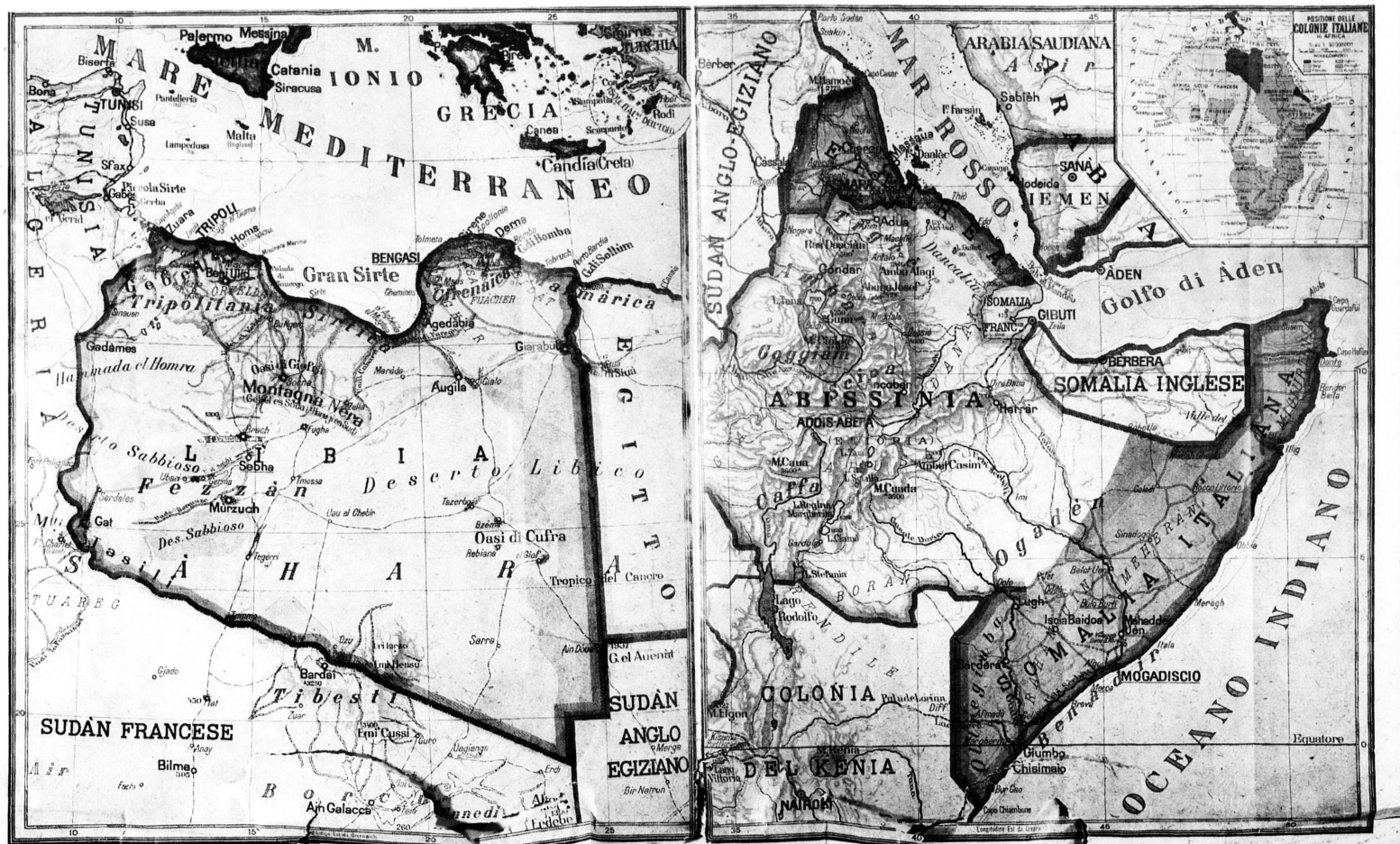
VIAVAI

# L'ECO DEL MONDO

*March 2, 1935*

*2657-E-335*  
*7*

## CARTA DELLE COLONIE ITALIANE



Central File: Decimal File 865C.01, Internal Affairs Of States, Libya, Government. Mandates, Recognition., April 9, 1930 - April 11, 1935. April 9, 1930 - April 11, 1935. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109732098%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109732098%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.